



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 328

LCO No. 1711

01711_____TRA

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:
(TRA)

AN ACT CONCERNING TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO MOTOR VEHICLE STATUTES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 4a-78 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 It is the policy of the state to require persons applying for a license,
4 selling goods or services [,] or leasing real or personal property to a
5 public agency, [or, after October 1, 2001, registering any motor vehicle
6 with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles] to furnish a federal Social
7 Security account number or federal employer identification number or
8 both, if available, to establish the identification of persons affected by
9 the tax laws of the state and for that purpose only to treat public
10 agencies as having an administrative responsibility for the tax laws of
11 the state.

12 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 14-36 of the 2006 supplement to the
13 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
14 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

15 (d) (1) No motor vehicle operator's license shall be issued to any
16 applicant who is sixteen or seventeen years of age unless the applicant
17 has held a learner's permit and has satisfied the requirements specified
18 in this subsection. The applicant shall (A) present to the commissioner
19 a certificate of the successful completion (i) in a public secondary
20 school, a state vocational school or a private secondary school of a full
21 course of study in motor vehicle operation prepared as provided in
22 section 14-36e, as amended, (ii) of training of similar nature provided
23 by a licensed drivers' school approved by the commissioner, or (iii) of
24 home training in accordance with subdivision (2) of this subsection,
25 including, in each case, or by a combination of such types of training,
26 successful completion of not less than twenty clock hours of behind-
27 the-wheel, on-the-road instruction; (B) present to the commissioner a
28 certificate of the successful completion of a course of not less than eight
29 hours relative to safe driving practices, including a minimum of four
30 hours on the nature and the medical, biological and physiological
31 effects of alcohol and drugs and their impact on the operator of a
32 motor vehicle, the dangers associated with the operation of a motor
33 vehicle after the consumption of alcohol or drugs by the operator, the
34 problems of alcohol and drug abuse and the penalties for alcohol and
35 drug-related motor vehicle violations; and (C) pass an examination
36 which shall include a comprehensive test as to knowledge of the laws
37 concerning motor vehicles and the rules of the road and an on-the-road
38 skills test as prescribed by the commissioner. At the time of application
39 and examination for a motor vehicle operator's license, an applicant
40 sixteen or seventeen years of age shall have held a learner's permit for
41 not less than one hundred eighty days, except that an applicant who
42 presents a certificate under subparagraph (A) (i) or subparagraph
43 (A)(ii) of this subdivision shall have held a learner's permit for not less
44 than one hundred twenty days and an applicant who is undergoing
45 training and instruction by the handicapped driver training unit in
46 accordance with the provisions of section 14-11b shall have held such
47 permit for the period of time required by said unit. The Commissioner
48 of Motor Vehicles shall approve the content of the safe driving

49 instruction at drivers' schools, high schools and other secondary
50 schools. Such hours of instruction required by this subdivision shall be
51 included as part of or in addition to any existing instruction programs.
52 Any fee charged for the course required under subparagraph (B) of
53 this subdivision shall not exceed an amount prescribed by the
54 commissioner by regulation, adopted in accordance with chapter 54.
55 Any applicant sixteen or seventeen years of age who, while a resident
56 of another state, completed the course required in subparagraph (A) of
57 this subdivision, but did not complete the safe driving course required
58 in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, shall complete the safe driving
59 course, and any fee charged for the course shall not exceed an amount
60 prescribed by the commissioner by regulation, adopted in accordance
61 with chapter 54. The commissioner may waive any requirement in this
62 subdivision, except for that in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision, in
63 the case of an applicant sixteen or seventeen years of age who holds a
64 valid motor vehicle operator's license issued by any other state,
65 provided the commissioner is satisfied that the applicant has received
66 training and instruction of a similar nature. (2) The commissioner may
67 accept as evidence of sufficient training under subparagraph (A) of
68 subdivision (1) of this subsection home training as evidenced by a
69 written statement signed by the spouse of a married minor applicant,
70 or by a parent, grandparent, foster parent or the legal guardian of an
71 applicant which states that the applicant has obtained a learner's
72 permit and has successfully completed a driving course taught by the
73 person signing the statement, that the signer has had an operator's
74 license for at least four years preceding the date of the statement, and
75 that the signer has not had such license suspended by the
76 commissioner for at least four years preceding the date of the
77 statement or, if the applicant has no spouse, parent, grandparent,
78 foster parent or guardian so qualified and available to give the
79 instruction, a statement signed by the applicant's stepparent, brother,
80 sister, uncle or aunt, by blood or marriage, provided the person
81 signing the statement is qualified. (3) If the commissioner requires a
82 written test of any applicant under this section, the test shall be given

83 in English or Spanish at the option of the applicant, provided the
84 commissioner shall require that the applicant shall have sufficient
85 understanding of English for the interpretation of traffic control signs.
86 (4) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may adopt regulations, in
87 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement the
88 purposes of this subsection concerning the content of safe driving
89 instruction at drivers' schools, high schools and other secondary
90 schools.

91 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 14-36e of the 2006 supplement to the
92 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
93 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

94 (b) Each local and regional board of education may provide a course
95 of instruction in motor vehicle operation and highway safety on a
96 secondary school level, which course (1) shall consist of not less than
97 thirty clock hours of classroom instruction offered during or after
98 school hours as said board of education, in its discretion, may provide,
99 including instruction of not less than fifteen minutes concerning the
100 responsibilities of an operator of a motor vehicle under subsection (b)
101 of section 14-223 and the penalty for a violation of the provisions of
102 said subsection (b), and (2) may include behind-the-wheel instruction
103 of [not less than] up to twenty clock hours. Said course shall be open to
104 enrollment by any person between the ages of sixteen and eighteen,
105 inclusive, who is a resident of the town or school district or whose
106 parent, parents or legal guardian owns property taxable in such town
107 or school district. Any such board of education may contract for such
108 behind-the-wheel instruction with a licensed drivers' school.

109 Sec. 4. Section 14-42 of the general statutes is repealed and the
110 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

111 (a) An application for an operator's license or identity card shall be
112 made on [blanks] forms furnished by the commissioner. The
113 [application blanks] applications shall be in such form and contain
114 such provisions and information as the commissioner may determine.

115 (b) The application for an operator's license and the application for
 116 an identity card shall include the opportunity to complete an organ
 117 donor card pursuant to sections 19a-271 to 19a-280, inclusive. An
 118 operator's license issued to a person who has completed a donor card
 119 shall have a copy of the card imprinted on the reverse side of the
 120 license.

121 Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 14-65i of the general statutes is
 122 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
 123 *1, 2006*):

124 (a) Each motor vehicle repair shop shall prominently display a sign
 125 24 inches by 36 inches in each area of its premises where work orders
 126 are placed by customers. The sign, which shall be in boldface type,
 127 shall read as follows:

128 THIS ESTABLISHMENT IS LICENSED WITH THE
 129 STATE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES.
 130 EACH CUSTOMER IS ENTITLED TO...

131 _____
 132 1. A WRITTEN ESTIMATE FOR REPAIR WORK.
 133 2. A DETAILED INVOICE OF WORK DONE AND PARTS SUPPLIED.
 134 3. RETURN OF REPLACED PARTS, PROVIDED THE REQUEST IS
 135 MADE AT THE TIME [THE VEHICLE IS RETURNED TO THE
 136 CUSTOMER] WRITTEN OR ORAL AUTHORIZATION IS PROVIDED
 137 FOR WORK TO BE PERFORMED.

138 _____
 139 NO REPAIR WORK MAY BE UNDERTAKEN ON A VEHICLE
 140 WITHOUT THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE CUSTOMER.
 141 NO CHARGES FOR REPAIR MAY BE MADE IN EXCESS OF THE
 142 WRITTEN ESTIMATE WITHOUT THE WRITTEN OR ORAL
 143 CONSENT OF THE CUSTOMER.

144 _____

145 QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE ABOVE SHOULD BE DIRECTED
146 TO THE MANAGER OF THIS REPAIR FACILITY.
147 UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS REGARDING SERVICE WORK MAY BE
148 SUBMITTED TO:
149 _____

150 DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
151 DEALER REPAIR DIVISION
152 60 STATE STREET, WETHERSFIELD, CONNECTICUT
153 TELEPHONE:
154 HOURS OF OPERATION:

155 Sec. 6. Section 14-79 of the general statutes is repealed and the
156 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

157 [Any person who] The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may, after
158 notice and opportunity for a hearing, in accordance with the
159 provisions of chapter 54, suspend or revoke the license or licenses of
160 any licensee or impose a civil penalty of not more than one thousand
161 dollars for each violation on any person or firm that violates any
162 provision of this part. [shall, for the first offense, be fined not less than
163 one hundred dollars nor more than two hundred fifty dollars or
164 imprisoned for not less than ten days nor more than thirty days, or be
165 both fined and imprisoned. For a subsequent violation, he shall be
166 fined not less than two hundred fifty dollars nor more than five
167 hundred dollars or imprisoned for not less than thirty days nor more
168 than three months, or be both fined and imprisoned.]

169 Sec. 7. Subsection (c) of section 10-298 of the 2006 supplement to the
170 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
171 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

172 (c) The board shall provide the Department of Motor Vehicles with
173 the names of all individuals sixteen years of age or older who, on or
174 after October 1, 2005, have been determined to be blind by a physician

175 or optometrist, as provided in section 10-305. The board shall provide
 176 simultaneous written notification to any individual whose name is
 177 being transmitted by the board to said department. The board shall
 178 update the list of names provided to the Department of Motor Vehicles
 179 on a quarterly basis. The list shall also contain the address and date of
 180 birth for each individual reported, as shown on the records of the
 181 board. The department shall maintain such list on a confidentially
 182 basis, in accordance with the provisions of section 14-46d, as amended
 183 under section 14-46d, as amended by this act. The board shall enter
 184 into a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Motor
 185 Vehicles to effectuate the purposes of this subsection.

186 Sec. 8. Section 14-46d of the general statutes is repealed and the
 187 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

188 Any reports or records received or issued by the department,
 189 commissioner, board or any of its members pursuant to sections 14-46a
 190 to 14-46g, inclusive, or section 10-298, as amended by this act, for the
 191 purpose of determining whether such individual meets the health
 192 standards of motor vehicle operator licensure, shall be for the
 193 confidential use of the commissioner and the board and, except as may
 194 be required by state or federal law, shall not be made available to any
 195 person, or to any federal, state or local governmental agency and shall
 196 not be used as evidence at any trial. Such reports or records, however,
 197 may be made available to the individual who is the subject of such
 198 reports or records or to his authorized representative and may be used
 199 at proceedings conducted under chapter 54 or this chapter. Any person
 200 conducting an examination or furnishing any report or record
 201 pursuant to sections 14-46a to 14-46g, inclusive, may be compelled to
 202 testify on such reports or records at any such proceedings. A member
 203 of the board may not be compelled to testify in any other proceeding
 204 as to any facts concerning the medical condition of any person known
 205 by such member as a result of a review of such reports or records
 206 relative to such person except upon order of the court if the interests of
 207 justice so require.

| | | |
|---|---------------------|-----------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>from passage</i> | 4a-78 |
| Sec. 2 | <i>from passage</i> | 14-36(d) |
| Sec. 3 | <i>from passage</i> | 14-36e(b) |
| Sec. 4 | <i>from passage</i> | 14-42 |
| Sec. 5 | <i>July 1, 2006</i> | 14-65i(a) |
| Sec. 6 | <i>from passage</i> | 14-79 |
| Sec. 7 | <i>from passage</i> | 10-298(c) |
| Sec. 8 | <i>from passage</i> | 14-46d |

Statement of Purpose:

To correct and clarify existing statutes administered by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]